

WYCOMBE EARN WIN

By Argus

Bromley 2;

Wycombe Wanderers 4

THIS was the type of thriller which made the blood course through the veins. Cock o' the Isthmian walk Bromley—the team which always pulls out all the stops against the Wanderers—finally succumbed to a Wycombe team which produced unsuspected finishing venom in attack and heights of heroism in defence.

But, my goodness, before the happy Wycombe boys could drag their weary limbs off the field at the final whistle they had to endure 30 minutes of fire and fury as gallant Bromley, reduced to ten men, battered away at goalkeeper Ken Brown.

Spurred on by the emotion of having lost wing half Mickey Marshall with a leg injury, Bromley made a terrific fight of it before yielding their top-of-the-table League spot.

Any team which wins at Bromley plays well, and Wycombe played magnificently. Even if Bromley had played throughout with eleven fit men, Wanderers would still have won.

BLUES GONE

This was a performance to make Wycombe eyes sparkle. Gone were the Clapton blues. With cheerful Johnny Weaver adding power plus at left half, after making the latest of late appearances into the line-up and Jimmy Truett looking like his old roisterous self, Wycombe's attack and defence were linked into a compact fighting unit with guns cocked.

Completing an impressive half back line was John Fisher—a human yo yo on Saturday.

Wycombe's two Mr. Browns were always in the thick of the fight. Goalkeeper Ken, lithe as a panther, played a "blinder" revelling in the rocket fast shooting of Studley, Moore and company.

NO NOVICE

Right-back Michael Brown, Wycombe's third choice for this position, looked anything but a novice. Indeed, he bid fair to rival the composure of Wy-

combe skipper Jimmy Moring—high praise indeed!

Every Wycombe defender played his heart out in the crucial second half and even the award of a late penalty kick to Bromley scarcely reflected panic.

As for the forwards—they had a glossy new look with Paul Bates enjoying a conflict brain-box battle with talented ex-Dulwich pivot Dennis Joyce.

When Paul escaped the long legs of Joyce, as he frequently did, Freddy Price, the Bromley goalkeeper, usually had his hands full.

The speed of wingers Michael Rockell and Gerald Free was always being exploited by the Wycombe inside men and the ball moved smoothly right along the line. Back in the Isthmian limelight, Ray Howson battled keenly and scored two fine goals while Cliff Trott was always dangerous.

QUICK GOAL

Few people gave Wycombe much of a chance before the game started and their fears seemed confirmed when Bromley soon found a gap in the Wanderers' defence. Within sixty seconds Scheckles had the ball in the net.

As Wycombe settled down, Free skipped nimbly past the experienced Reg Dunmall and the Bromley defence came under fire.

With Marshall limping on the wing, Bromley were badly hampered and the Wycombe forwards held the whip hand until the interval; two headed goals giving Wanderers a 2-1 lead.

First Howson cleverly finished off a Rockell-Bates move and then Cliff Trott beautifully nodded home a centre from Jimmy Truett.

SNAPPY GOAL

With the "break" behind them, the Wanderers did not have to wait long for another success, Howson volleying home a snappy goal from well out on the left wing.

Hell has no fury like Bromley scorned and the Kent club—with their League leadership in peril—really went after the Wycombe goal. Big-shooting Dennis Studley planted one fierce free kick on the visitors' crossbar and Brown made some fabulous saves before Wanderers weathered the storm and made the points safe with a simple goal by Rockell.

The winger wandered into the centre to await the inevitable Bates pass, with the Bromley defenders miles away.

Even then Bromley never gave up. A flurry of attacks and two defenders tackling Moore in Brown's last outpost ended with a penalty claim and the referee pointing at the spot.

Penalty-king David Hall made no mistake.

WYCOMBE ARE MADE TO FIGHT

Bromley 2, Wycombe 4

WYCOMBE WANDERERS' goalkeeper Ken Brown was the star at Bromley, and it was mainly due to his efforts that the result was not reversed.

He was beaten in the first minute of the game by Bromley centre forward Paul Scheckles, following a centre from inside left Studley, but after this initial setback he saved his side time after time.

Bromley were unlucky to lose right half Marshall ten minutes later. He returned, but could only limp on the wing.

Despite this advantage it was the 20th minute before inside left Howson beat Price with a header following a pass from Rockell. Eight minutes later inside right Trott put Wycombe in the lead with a lob into the top netting.

Howson increased the margin in the 53rd minute from a Weaver cross when Price and right-back Dunmall were well beaten. Bromley were more forceful in attack but with only four fit forwards the final efforts were not good enough.

Studley was unlucky to see a free kick from the edge of the area hit the lower face of the bar and bounce back into play. It was following this effort that Marshall received a further injury and went off for the second time.

Outside right Rockell made it 4-1 in the 79th minute, after being put through by leader Paul Bates.

Five minutes later Hall reduced the arrears with a penalty following a foul on Moore.